



Martin Luther King, Jr., Scholars Fact Sheet

Program Description:

The *Martin Luther King, Jr., Scholars Program* is a unique summer internship experience at the U.S. Department of Education, established in commemoration of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and his contributions to civil and human rights in America.

Up to 10 outstanding undergraduate or graduate students with an interest in education policy or public policy and administration will be selected to participate in the program this summer.

Selected students will be designated as *Martin Luther King, Jr., Scholars* and will receive federal temporary appointments in the excepted service for up to 12 weeks at grades GS-4, 5, 7, or 9, depending on qualifications and education level completed. (The corresponding pay range is \$10.86 to \$18.40 per hour.)

Scholars will be assigned to the Office of the Secretary of Education and to the immediate offices of the Assistant Secretaries of Education at the Department of Education's headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Scholars will assist with a variety of projects related to critical education programs and initiatives, analysis, policy development, or legal or other work designed to provide developmental experiences and exposure to government and public policy at the highest levels of a Cabinet Department.

Eligibility Requirements:

The program is open to **continuing** juniors, seniors, and graduate students who have, at a minimum, completed their junior year by the end of the Spring 2002 semester.

Students must be enrolled on a full-time basis in an accredited undergraduate or graduate degree program in any field of study.

Note: Graduating baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral students who are not enrolled and continuing their education in the academic semester following the summer internship are not "continuing students" and are not eligible for this program.

Students must be in good academic standing (academic transcripts required). A faculty recommendation will also be a required part of the student's application.

Recruitment Procedures:

The U. S. Department of Education, Office of Management, Human Resources Group, will post a special announcement for the Martin Luther King, Jr., Scholars program. The recruiting announcement will briefly describe the program and specify eligibility requirements, application procedures, citizenship requirements, contact information, and other required announcement information.

It will be posted on www.ed.gov/offices/OM/edjobs.html, on the U.S. Office of Personnel Management's USAJobs Web site (www.usajobs.opm.gov), and on the new www.studentjobs.gov Web site.

The announcement will be open on February 25, 2002, and close on March 8, 2002.

Applications:

Students desiring to be *Martin Luther King, Jr., Scholars* will be required to submit:

- A resume or application form (OF-612)
- Proof of continuing enrollment (transcript or letter from the registrar)
- Proof of academic good standing (transcript)
- A letter of recommendation from a faculty member or academic advisor
- A brief essay (500 words, 2 pages) on what link they see between the philosophies of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and education and public policy
- A brief one-page cover letter on why they wish to be a Martin Luther King, Jr., Scholar and what they have accomplished or plan to accomplish in their life that embraces Dr. King's philosophies

Application packages will be reviewed by the U. S. Department of Education's Human Resources Group for legal, regulatory, and program requirements.

Applications from eligible students will be referred to a panel for review of letters, essays, faculty recommendations, and transcripts. The panel will develop a list of the top 25-30 candidates. Applications will be evaluated based on academic achievement, the quality of thought exemplified in the letter and essay, and the strength of the candidate's interest in education, public policy, and this specific internship program.

A second panel will be convened to make final selections from the top group of candidates.